App. No. 10/088243 Office Action Dated April 8, 2004 Amd. Dated September 8, 2004

## Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 27 with the following amended paragraph:

In Fig. 4 another embodiment of the present invention is shown. The cable housing 109 is as described above for the cable housing 9, whereas the main housing 106 comprises a double prism system with phase retarder 108 as part of the deflection system. In the embodiment depicted the main housing 106 is further comprising a guide light diode 114 arranged parallel to the laser diode 102, when the laser apparatus 101 is assembled. When using a prism system 108 as a deflecting means, the position of the absorbing means 107 is not crucial anymore, and in the embodiment depicted in Fig. 4 the photo diode 107 is arranged adjacent the laser diode 102 in the diode housing 105. The diode housing 105 further comprises the components as described above for the diode housing 5. The diode housing 105 further comprises a collimating lens 103 and an aperture 104.

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